

## House Resolution No.

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives occasionally pause in their diverse legislative endeavors in order to acknowledge the contributions of Show-Me State residents who answered the call to national service during times of worldwide turmoil through their enlistment in the various branches which make up the United States military; and

**Whereas**, William Cornelli of Maryland Heights, Missouri, served with the 1st Marine Division in 1944 when that military unit undertook the assault on the Palau island of Peleliu; and

**Whereas**, originally predicted to take only a few days, the subduing of Peleliu by the 1st Marine Division began on September 15, 1944, and lasted through October and into November with a total of 1,641 American casualties; 7,254 American wounded; more than 10,000 Japanese dead; and 301 Japanese taken as prisoners of war; and

**Whereas**, although D-Day battles in Europe and Iwo Jima in the Pacific have more prominence in the popular histories of World War II, the fight for Peleliu was just as difficult and just as important in its own right to the completion of the war and the restoration of peace; and

**Whereas**, William Cornelli subsequently served on Okinawa and in the Korean conflict, returned to civilian life, and succumbed to cancer in June 2003; and

**Whereas**, William Cornelli was quiet and reserved about his role as a soldier early in life and may never have known that he appeared twice in a History Channel film on Peleliu; and

**Whereas**, in his esteemed role as a family man, William Cornelli was justifiably proud to be known as the beloved husband of Bonnie Cornelli and the loving father of Jo Ann Wannemuehler:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to posthumously recognize the patriotic national service of William Cornelli with the United States Marine Corps during World War II and to convey to his surviving family members this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation of his personal sacrifices in the name of freedom and democracy; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in memory of William Cornelli of Maryland Heights, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Albert Liese  
District No. 79

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do  
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House  
Resolution No. \_\_\_\_, adopted \_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rod Jetton, Speaker